

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SIG-01 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01

ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00

CIEP-01 CEA-01 AGRE-00 INT-05 OES-06 FEA-01 /092 R

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EB/ORF/ICD:EAWENDT

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P R 291947Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, EMIN, UNCTAD

SUBJECT: UNCTAD TDB: AGENDA AND ESTABLISHMENT OF AD HOC

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

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REF: (A) BRUSSELS 9419, (B) BRUSSELS 9420 (NOTAL)

1. REGARDING TIMING OF MEETING OF AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (ICC) DISCUSSED REFTEL (A), DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES CONCERNS OF EC AND OTHERS REGARDING OVERLAPPING OF THIS MEETING WITH CIEC/CORM MEETINGS AND CAN SUPPORT NOVEMBER 8-12 DATES SUGGESTED BY EC, ALTHOUGH THIS CAUSES HEAVY TRAVEL SCHEDULE FOR U.S. PARTICIPANTS AND WE MAY WISH TO EXPLORE FURTHER DURING TDB POSSIBILITY OF SOME ADJUSTMENT OF DATES.

2. DEPARTMENT AGREES WITH ASSESSMENT OF RUSSELL REPORTED REFTEL (B) THAT FORTHCOMING TDB MEETING SHOULD BE MAINLY PROCEDURAL AND THAT MAJOR ISSUE WILL BE ESTABLISHMENT OF AD HOC COMMITTEE REFERRED TO ABOVE. WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE G-77 ATTEMPT (FOR WHICH WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE AS YET) TO EXPAND MANDATE GIVEN TO COMMITTEE TO GIVE IT DIRECTIONAL AUTHORITY OVER INDIVIDUAL COMMODITY GROUPS AND SOME NEGOTIATING AUTHORITY OF ITS OWN. IN OUR VIEW, MAJOR TASK OF GROUP SHOULD BE TO, AS UNCTAD RESOLUTION 93(IV) STATES, "COORDINATE" WORK OF GROUPS AND INTEGRATED PROGRAM MEASURES, AS WELL AS TO PROVIDE FORUM FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION OF MAJOR COMMODITY POLICY GROUPS WITHIN UNCTAD FRAMEWORK.

3. RUSSELL'S SUGGESTION THAT MEMBERSHIP OF AD HOC GROUP BE LIMITED HAS SOME ATTRACTIONS, BUT WE HAVE RESERVATIONS AS TO WHETHER IT WILL IN FACT BE FEASIBLE TO INSIST ON LIMITED MEMBERSHIP IN VIEW OF BROAD SUPPORT FOR OPEN MEMBERSHIP IN UNCTAD FORUMS (E.G., EXPANSION OF TDB ITSELF TO OPEN-ENDED MEMBERSHIP), AND WHAT SIMPLE AND PRACTICAL RULE COULD BE APPLIED FOR DETERMINING WHAT COUNTRIES WOULD BE MEMBERS. WE WILL WISH TO DISCUSS THIS FURTHER IN GENEVA WITH RUSSELL AND OTHERS.

4. IN RESPONSE TO RUSSELL SUGGESTION FOR U.S.-EC CONSULTATION, PREEG AND BOERNER ARE PLANNING TO ARRIVE GENEVA LATE MORNING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, AND WOULD BE PLEASED TO MEET LATE AFTERNOON OR HAVE WORKING DINNER WITH RUSSELL AND OTHER COMMUNITY REPS HE MAY WISH TO INCLUDE TO DISCUSS THESE MATTERS, AS WELL AS OTHER TDB TOPICS SUCH AS DEBT, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TDB MINISTERIAL AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY MENTIONED REFTEL. REQUEST MISSION INFORM RUSSELL OF THIS AND SEE IF SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE CONVENIENT. ROBINSON

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